

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action of 17 March 2005. Claims 26-31 are pending in the application, and Claims 26-31 have been rejected.

By this Response and Amendment, Claims 26-27 and 29-30 have been amended.

No new matter has been added.

In view of the amendments above and remarks below, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and further examination.

About The Invention

The present invention relates generally to a location-based product that includes a location information resource for providing the present location of the location-aware product to within some margin of error, and such present location information is included by the location-aware product in various outputs, including but not limited to, location stamps in files for create, open and/or modify file operations. In a further aspect, location information may be used in determining the time zone or zones in which one or more operations have occurred, and to provide the basis for updating clocks or other resources useful for time-stamping of various operations and outputs. In a still further aspect, information displays may be sorted by accounting for the differences in times and dates introduced through time-stamping of events in different time zones.

Rejections under 35 USC §112, second paragraph

Claims 30-31 have been rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. With respect to Claim 30, the Examiner states that in the recitation "wherein the directory listing can be sorted", the phrase "can be" renders the claim indefinite. With respect to Claim 31, the Examiner states that this Claim is rejected by virtue of its dependency on

Claim 30.

By this amendment, Claim 30 has been amended to replace the phrase "can be", with the more definite word "is". In view of this amendment, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection of Claims 30 and 31, under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, has been overcome.

Rejections under 35 USC §102(e)

Claims 26-29 have been rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Usami, et al., (US Patent 6,731,746).

Generally, Usami discloses an automatic sorting system for an electronic telephone directory to sort telephone numbers in an electronic telephone directory, prepares a calling information list which indicates an expected calling frequency in each day of the week and time period, on the basis of a priority numerical value of the telephone numbers according to the calling times and function setting conditions of the telephone numbers in each day of the week and time period; and automatically sorts and indicates the telephone numbers in descending order of the expected calling frequency with reference to the calling information list for days of the week and time periods when the electronic telephone directory is opened. In other words, Usami discloses displaying a list of telephone numbers that is sorted by the probability of those telephone numbers being used at the time that that list of telephone numbers is displayed. These telephone numbers are ones that are called by a user. Usami discloses keeping track of the user's calling patterns so that the probability of a telephone number being used during a particular time period, on a particular day of the week, can be computed. A sorted list of telephone numbers prepared in accordance with Usami, changes depending on the day of the week and/or time of day that the sorted listing of telephone is generated because the probability of using any particular telephone may change with respect to the day of the week

and/or time of day.

Applicant's invention, as defined by the amended Claims, is directed to methods of producing a directory listing of computer files. Additionally, Applicant's claimed invention requires displaying the listing of computer files that include time and time zone information associated with each of the computer files. Support for the current amendments can generally be found throughout the specification, and can more particularly be found at pages 19-22, and in Figs. 12-17.

As explained in more detail below, Usami does not disclose displaying a listing of computer files, does not disclose displaying time and time zone information with the computer files, and does not give the same meaning to the expression "time zone" as is found in Applicant's application.

In the field of computer systems, it is well-known that a directory listing provides a list of the computer files associated with that directory. Although telephone numbers are commonly listed in telephone books, which may be referred to telephone directories, such telephone directories are not the same as a listing of computer files. The telephone numbers of Usami are different from the computer files of the Claimed invention.

The listing of telephone numbers as disclosed by Usami, does not include the time and time zone information recited in Applicant's Claims. Fig. 6 of Usami, cited by the Examiner, as well as similar figures in Usami, illustrate the logical organization of information in an internal memory, wherein that information is used for internally calculating the probability of a particular telephone number being called at any particular day or time of day. These figures do not represent the look or format of a display.

Applicant's recitation of time zones refers to the conventional meaning of the expression "time zones" (e.g., Eastern Standard Time (EST), Pacific Daylight Time (PDT)). Usami uses time zone to refer to a period of the day, such as 12:00 - 6:00. More particularly, Usami seems to use the expression "time zone" interchangeably with the expression "time period". Usami uses these

expressions to refer to periods of time during a day when calls to one or more telephone numbers have been made. Usami does not use the expression "time zone" to refer to the various longitudinal areas into which the world is divided for the purpose of providing a synchronized system of time which reflects the local time at different geographical regions.

Usami does not disclose, suggest, or provide motivation for the invention defined by Claims 26-29 as amended.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that rejection of independent Claims .

Rejections under 35 USC §103(a)

Claims 30-31 have been rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Usami (US Patent 6,731,746) in view of Yamada, et al. (US Patent 6,208,935).

The relevant content of the disclosure of Usami is discussed above in connection with the rejection under 35 USC §102(e).

Yamada, et al., disclose (in accordance with the Abstract) a map application system that employs an automatic stroll method of strolling through a virtual space into the route, and distribution information change according to the interests of a user and the time of day (daytime vs. nighttime, etc.). An article contributed to a contribution server from a contribution terminal is stored temporarily in a contribution DB. Each article is converted to information related to a spatial position by a spatial information structure process and is stored in a spatial information DB. The contribution server returns an article with the relation to the position of the neighborhood according to the input of a region name on a stroll terminal. The stroll terminal starts a stroll on the basis of a region name inputted as an initial value, and automatically sets a route on the basis of the interest information of a user. Information about the route is provided from

contribution server and is appropriately displayed.

Claims 30-31 depend from amended independent Claim 29. As discussed above, Usami does not disclose, suggest, or provide motivation for the invention as defined by amended independent Claim 29. The combination of Usami and Yamada, et al., does not produce the claimed invention. Further, the Examiner's statement regarding the motivation to combine Usami, with Yamada, et al., does not appear to be correct. Usami's disclosure deals with the probability of a telephone number being called at a particular day or time of day, and is independent of geographical location information, which means that Yamada's latitude/longitude system has no connection to, or nexus with, the disclosure of Usami.

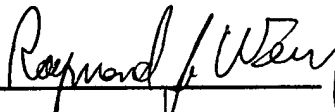
In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection under 35 USC §103(a) has been overcome.

Conclusion

All of the rejections in the outstanding Office Action of 17 March 2005 have been responded to, and Applicant respectfully submits that the pending Claims 26-31 are now in condition for allowance.

Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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